

MANAGED MESSAGING PLATFORM

CROSS-REFERENCE(S) TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

This patent application hereby incorporates by reference in its entirety the pending Provisional Patent Application entitled MANAGED MESSAGING PLATFORM, Application No. 60/282,381, naming Marcellino Tanumihardja and Gregory Brown as inventors, filed via Express Mail on 5 April 2001, and also claims the benefit of this Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381 under the auspices of 35 U.S.C. 119(e).

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present application relates, in general, to wireless communication.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Wireless communication refers to communication between sending and receiving stations via electromagnetic radiation not guided by any hard physical path (e.g., by microwave link). Examples of wireless communication are communication via cellular

telephony systems, Personal Communication Systems, or Global System for Mobile Communication systems.

Wireless communication is typically accomplished via users exchanging voice and/or alphanumeric data via use of at least one wireless device. One example of wireless communication is that of a first wireless-device user exchanging voice and/or alphanumeric data with a group of two or more other wireless-device users.

It has been noted by the inventors named herein (the inventors) that when a first wireless-device user finds it advantageous to exchange voice and/or alphanumeric data with a group of wireless-device users, the first wireless-device user either may want to disseminate information to the group, or may instead want to both disseminate information to the group and receive feedback from the group members in response to the disseminated information. It has been further noted by the inventors that when such group communication is performed in the related art, it is generally done manually, in that the first wireless-device user must generally contact each of the group members and disseminate the voice and/or alphanumeric data on an individual basis. Thereafter, typically the first wireless-device user manually aggregates and transforms the responses from the users in the group if such aggregation or transformation is desired.

The inventors have noted that there are several disadvantages to the manual method of the related art. First, the inventors have noted that it is very tedious and time intensive to contact and disseminate information to the group, particularly if data transmission is involved. Second, the inventors have noted that insofar as group members may be temporarily unavailable, the first wireless-device user must seek to repetitively call the unavailable group members. Third, the inventors have noted that it is very tedious and time intensive to manually aggregate and transform responses from

the group members. Fourth, the inventors have noted that if a group member is not interested in either receiving or responding to the disseminated information, the first wireless-device user essentially wastes his time by contacting the disinterested user. Fifth, the inventors have noted that if a group member is undecided in his response to the disseminated information, the first wireless-device user must repetitively contact such undecided group member to see if the undecided group member has yet arrived at a decision. In addition to the foregoing, other disadvantages exist which will be appreciated by those having ordinary skill in the art.

In light of the foregoing, the inventors have noted that a need exists in the art for a method and system that will allow a wireless device user to easily disseminate information to and collect information from a group of wireless-device users.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The inventors have devised a method and system that will allow a wireless device user to easily disseminate information to and collect information from a group of wireless-device users.

In one embodiment, a method includes but is not limited to presenting, via a wireless device, a response aggregation drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients.

In another embodiment, a method includes but is not limited to accepting, via a wireless device, user input requesting response aggregation drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients.

In another embodiment, a method includes but is not limited to presenting at least two message-structure item questions via a wireless device.

In another embodiment, a method includes but is not limited to receiving input requesting response aggregation drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients; and transmitting the message to at least one of the at least two desired recipients, wherein said transmitting is via at least one wireless device.

In another embodiment, a method includes but is not limited to transmitting, via a wireless device, a message having at least two desired recipients.

In addition to the foregoing, other method embodiments are described in the claims, drawing, and text forming a part of the present application.

In one or more various embodiments, related systems include but are not limited to circuitry for effecting the foregoing-described method embodiments; the circuitry can be virtually any combination of hardware, software, and/or firmware configured to effect the foregoing-described method embodiments depending upon the design choices of the system designer.

The foregoing is a summary and thus contains, by necessity; simplifications, generalizations and omissions of detail; consequently, those skilled in the art will appreciate that the summary is illustrative only and is not intended to be in any way limiting. Other aspects, inventive features, and advantages of the devices and/or processes described herein, as defined solely by the claims, will become apparent in the non-limiting detailed description set forth herein.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The foregoing aspects and many of the attendant advantages of this invention will become more readily appreciated as the same become better understood by reference to the following detailed description, when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 shows a pictographic representation of an environment wherein methods and systems described herein may be utilized.

Figure 2 depicts a process via a wireless device, a response to aggregation drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients.

Figure 3 depicts that, in one implementation,, method step 202 includes method step 300.

Figure 8B depicts an example of a scheme used by many implementations herein when presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients as described in method step 300.

Figure 4 depicts that, in one implementation,, of method step 300, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, method steps 400 and 402.

Figure 5 depicts that, in one implementation,, of method step 300, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, method steps 500 and 502.

Figure 6 shows in one implementation, of method step 300, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients can include, but in not limited to, method steps 600 and 602.

Figure 7 depicts that, in one implementation, of method step 300, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, method steps 700 and 702.

Figure 8A depicts that, in one implementation, of method step 300, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, method steps 800 and 802

Figure 9 depicts that, in one implementation, of method step 300, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, method steps 900 and 902.

Figure 10 shows a process via a wireless device, user input requesting response aggregation drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients.

Figure 11A shows that, in one implementation, method step 1002 includes method step 1100.

Figure 11B-E depicts an example of a scheme used by many implementations herein when accepting user input defining the at least two desired recipients via entry of at least one desired-recipient item as described in method step 1100.

Figure 12 shows that, in one implementation, method step 1100 includes method step 1200.

Figure 13 shows that, in one implementation, method step 1002 includes method step 1300.

Figure 14 depicts that, in one implementation, method step 1300 includes method step 1400.

Figure 15 shows that, in one implementation, method step 1002 includes method step 1500.

Figure 16 depicts a process that illustrates presenting at least two questions via a wireless device.

Figure 17 shows that, in one implementation, method step 1602 includes method step 1700.

Figure 18A depicts in one implementation, method step 1602 includes method step 1800.

Figures 18B-C depicts an example of a scheme used in one implementation of displaying a message having at least one message-structure item.

Figure 19 shows that, in one implementation, method step 1800 includes method step 1900.

Figure 20 shows a process that illustrates the receiving input requesting response aggregation drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients.

Figure 21 shows that, in one implementation, method step 2004 includes method step 2100.

Figure 22 shows that, in one implementation, method step 2004 includes method step 2200.

Figure 23 shows that, in one implementation, method step 2004 can include, but is not limited to, method steps 2300-2306.

Figure 24 shows that, in one implementation, method step 2300 can include method step 2400.

Figure 25 shows that, in one implementation, method step 2400 can include method step 2500.

Figure 34 shows an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in Figure 25.

Figure 35 shows two alternate implementations of the high-level logic flowchart shown in Figure 34.

Figure 26 shows that, in one implementation, method step 2400 can include method step 2600.

Figure 27 shows that, in one implementation, method step 2302 can include method step 2700.

Figure 28 shows that, in one implementation, method step 2304 can include method step 2800.

Figure 29 depicts that, in one implementation, method step 2004 includes method step 2900.

Figure 30 shows that, in one implementation, method step 2004 includes method step 3000.

Figure 31 shows that, in one implementation, method step 2002 includes method step 3100.

Figure 32 shows that, in one implementation, method step 2002 includes method step 3200.

Figure 33 depicts a pictorial representation of a conventional data processing system in which illustrative embodiments of the devices and/or processes described herein may be implemented.

The use of the same reference symbols in different drawings indicates similar or identical items.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

With reference now to FIGURE 1, shown is a pictographic representation of an environment wherein methods and systems described herein may be utilized. First, depicted in FIGURE 1 is that sender 100, by use of wireless device 102 creates a message via communication with Managed Messaging Platform (MMP) engine 104 (as shown, wireless device 102 may be any type of wireless device such as a Wireless Application Protocol (WAP) phone, a wireless Personal Digital Assistant (PDA), or a two-way pager). Second, illustrated is that MMP engine 104 sends message notifications to each wireless device 108 associated with each desired recipient forming group of desired recipients 106 (as shown, each wireless device 108 may be any type of wireless device such as a Wireless Application Protocol (WAP) phone, a wireless Personal Digital Assistant (PDA), or a two-way pager). Third, shown is that one or more desired recipients in group of desired recipients 106 view and/or respond to the message via communication with MMP engine 104, where such viewing and/or

responding is achieved via each desired recipient's use of his or her respective wireless device 108. Fourth, depicted is that sender 100, via communication with MMP engine 104, uses his wireless device 102 to check the message status and responses, where the statuses and responses may have been aggregated by MMP engine 104. For more details related to the foregoing scheme, please see herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application 60/282,381.

Following are a series of flowcharts depicting implementations of processes. For ease of understanding, the flowcharts are organized such that the initial flowcharts present implementations via an overall "big picture" viewpoint and thereafter the following flowcharts present alternate implementations and/or expansions of the "big picture" flowcharts as either substeps or additional steps building on one or more earlier-presented flowcharts. Those having ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the style of presentation utilized herein (e.g., beginning with a presentation of a flowchart(s) presenting an overall view and thereafter providing additions to and/or further details in subsequent flowcharts) generally allows for a rapid and easy understanding of the various process implementations.

I. MANAGED MESSAGING AS OBSERVED FROM A SENDER'S WIRELESS DEVICE

A. DISPLAYING RESPONSE AGGREGATION VIA A SENDER'S WIRELESS DEVICE

Referring now to FIGURE 2, shown is a high-level logic flowchart depicting a process. Method step 200 depicts the start of process. Method step 202 illustrates presenting, via a wireless device (e.g., wireless device 102), a response aggregation

drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients (e.g., group of desired recipients 106). Method step 204 shows the end of the process.

With reference now to FIGURE 3, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 2. Depicted in FIGURE 3 is that, in one implementation, method step 202 includes method step 300. Method step 300 shows that, in one implementation, presenting, via a wireless device, a response aggregation drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 3 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

Referring now to FIGURE 8B, depicted is an example of a scheme used by many implementations herein when presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients as described in method step 300. Specifically, shown is a pictographic representation of a wireless device screen having an implementation of desired-recipient response summary 850 which shows a total number of 6 desired recipients in a group of desired recipients to whom a message has been sent, and that of those 6 desired recipients, 5 have viewed the message (of which 4 have indicated that they will not be attending a meeting or event to which the message is related, while 1 has indicated he or she will be attending a meeting or event to which the message is related), 1 has not viewed the message, 0 of the desired recipients are unreachable (i.e., 0 messages were detected undeliverable).

Referring now again to FIGURE 8B shown is that, in one implementation, it is possible to "drill down" into the "not attending" aspect of desired-recipient response summary 850, which results in the display of a list of addresses of those desired recipients who have responded to the message that they are NOT attending. In addition, further depicted is that it is possible to further "drill down" into individually listed desired recipients to gain more information related to such desired recipients (e.g., name, email address, time the message was sent to the desired recipient, the time the message was viewed by the desired recipient, an RSVP by the desired recipient, and a comment from the desired recipient).

With reference now to FIGURE 4, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 3. Depicted in FIGURE 4 is that, in one implementation, of method step 300, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, method steps 400 and 402. Method step 400 shows displaying a number of desired recipients who have viewed the message. Method step 402 depicts displaying, for at least one desired recipient who has viewed the message, at least one desired-recipient item selected from a desired-recipient-item group including the at least one desired recipient's name, the at least one desired recipient's email address, the message's title, a date the message was sent, a date the at least one desired recipient viewed the message, and a comment by the at least one desired recipient; typically (but not always) method step 402 occurs in response to user input. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 4 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

In one implementation, method steps 400 and 402 are effected via a drill-down scheme analogous to that depicted and described in relation to FIGURE 8B.

With reference now to FIGURE 5, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 3. Depicted in FIGURE 5 is that, in one implementation, of method step 300, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to method steps 500 and 502. Method step 500 shows displaying a number of desired recipients who have NOT viewed the message. Method step 502 depicts displaying, for at least one desired recipient who has NOT viewed the message, at least one desired-recipient item selected from a desired-recipient-item group including the message's title, a date the message was sent, the at least one desired recipient's name, and the at least one desired recipient's email address; typically method step 502 occurs in response to user input. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 5 function substantially as described elsewhere herein. In one implementation, method steps 500 and 502 are effected via a drill-down scheme analogous to that depicted and described in relation to FIGURE 8B.

With reference now to FIGURE 6, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 3. Depicted in FIGURE 6 is that, in one implementation, of method step 300, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, method steps 600 and 602. Method step 600 shows displaying a number of desired recipients for whom the message was

undeliverable. Method step 602 depicts displaying, for at least one desired recipient for whom the message was undeliverable, the message's title, a date the message was sent, at least one desired-recipient item selected from a desired-recipient-item group including the at least one desired recipient's name, and the at least one desired recipient's email address. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 6 function substantially as described elsewhere herein. In one implementation, method steps 600 and 602 are effected via a drill-down scheme analogous to that depicted and described in relation to FIGURE 8B.

With reference now to FIGURE 7, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 3. Depicted in FIGURE 7 is that, in one implementation, of method step 300, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, method steps 700 and 702. Method step 700 shows displaying a number of desired recipients attending a meeting or an event. Method step 702 depicts displaying, for at least one desired recipient who is attending the meeting or the event, at least one desired-recipient item selected from a desired-recipient-item group including the at least one desired recipient's name, the at least one desired recipient's email address, the message's title, a date the message was sent, a date the at least one desired recipient viewed the message, and a comment by the at least one desired recipient. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 7 function substantially as described elsewhere

herein. In one implementation, method steps 700 and 702 are effected via a drill-down scheme analogous to that depicted and described in relation to FIGURE 8B.

With reference now to FIGURE 8A, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 3. Depicted in FIGURE 8A is that, in one implementation, of method step 300, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, method steps 800 and 802. Method step 800 shows displaying a number of desired recipients NOT attending a meeting or an event. Method step 802 depicts displaying, for at least one desired recipient who is NOT attending the meeting or the event, at least one desired-recipient item selected from a desired-recipient-item group including the at least one desired recipient's name, the at least one desired recipient's email address, the message's title, a date the message was sent, a date the at least one desired recipient viewed the message, and a comment by the at least one desired recipient. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 8A function substantially as described elsewhere herein. In one implementation, method steps 800 and 802 are effected via a drill-down scheme analogous to that depicted and described in relation to FIGURE 8B.

Referring now again to FIGURE 8B shown is that, in one implementation, it is possible to "drill down" into the "not attending" aspect of desired-recipient response summary 850 which results in the display of a list of addresses of those desired recipients who have responded to the message that they are NOT attending. In addition, further depicted is that it is possible to further "drill down" into individually listed desired recipients to gain more information related to such desired recipients (e.g., name,

email address, time the message was sent to the desired recipient, the time the message was viewed by the desired recipient, an RSVP by the desired recipient, and a comment from the desired recipient).

With reference now to FIGURE 9, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 3. Depicted in FIGURE 9 is that, in one implementation, of method step 300, presenting a desired-recipient response summary having at least one display of aggregate message-related activities of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, method steps 900 and 902. Method step 900 shows displaying a number of desired recipients undecided as to a meeting or an event. Method step 902 depicts displaying, for at least one desired recipient who is undecided as to the meeting or the event, at least one desired-recipient item selected from a desired-recipient-item group including the message title, a date the message was sent, the at least one desired recipient's name, and the at least one desired recipient's email address. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 9 function substantially as described elsewhere herein. In one implementation, method steps 900 and 902 are effected via a drill-down scheme analogous to that depicted and described in relation to FIGURE 8B.

B. SPECIFYING RESPONSE AGGREGATION VIA SENDER'S WIRELESS DEVICE

Referring now to FIGURE 10, shown is a high-level logic flowchart depicting a process. Method step 1000 depicts the start of process. Method step 1002 illustrates accepting, via a wireless device, user input requesting response aggregation drawn upon

a message having at least two desired recipients. Method step 1004 shows the end of the process.

With reference now to FIGURE 11A, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 10. Depicted in FIGURE 11A is that, in one implementation, method step 1002 includes method step 1100. Method step 1100 shows that, in one implementation, accepting, via a wireless device, user input requesting response aggregation drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, accepting user input defining the at least two desired recipients via entry of at least one desired-recipient item. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 11A function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

Referring now to FIGURE 11B-E, depicted is an example of a scheme used by many implementations herein when accepting user input defining the at least two desired recipients via entry of at least one desired-recipient item as described in method step 1100. Illustrated in FIGURES 11B-E is a set of user interactions between a user and a wireless device whereby the user creates and sends a type of message known as a "memo."

Following are several flowchart-based descriptions of various implementations of systems and devices. In general, with respect to interactions via wireless devices, implementations of these flowchart-based descriptions follow the example scheme set forth in FIGURES 11B-E. That is, in general implementations follow the approach whereby a user can define a message via entry of data through a wireless device via a scheme analogous to that shown and described in relation to FIGURES 11B-E.

Reference to Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381, entitled WIRELESS PAYMENT PROCESSING, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety, will show that in Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381 a "structured message" is described as a "memo," and that extensions of the "memo" are therein described as a "meeting," and an "event." The description herein substantially follows the convention in the provisional by defining a set of attributes ("message-structure items") for messages and thereafter expanding those attributes to encompass meetings and/or events, where appropriate.

With reference now to FIGURE 12, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 11. Depicted in FIGURE 12 is that, in one implementation, method step 1100 includes method step 1200. Method step 1200 shows that, in one implementation, accepting user input defining the at least two desired recipients via entry of at least one desired-recipient item can include, but is not limited to, accepting user input defining the at least two desired recipients via entry of at least one desired-recipient item wherein the at least one desired recipient item is selected from a desired-recipient-item group which includes a desired recipient name, a desired recipient address, a choice of a group name, and a choice of a contact. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 12 function substantially as described elsewhere herein. In one implementation method step 1200 is accomplished via a scheme analogous to that shown and described in relation to FIGURES 11B-E.

With reference now to FIGURE 13, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 10. Depicted in FIGURE 13 is that, in one

implementation, method step 1002 includes method step 1300. Method step 1300 shows that, in one implementation, accepting, via a wireless device, user input requesting response aggregation drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, accepting user input defining the message to have at least one message-structure item. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 13 function substantially as described elsewhere herein. In one implementation method step 1300 is accomplished via a scheme analogous to that shown and described in relation to FIGURES 11B-E.

With reference now to FIGURE 14, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 13. Depicted in FIGURE 14 is that, in one implementation, method step 1300 includes method step 1400. Method step 1400 shows that, in one implementation, accepting user input defining the message to have at least one message-structure item can include, but is not limited to, the at least one message-structure item selected from a message-structure-item group which includes a subject; a response option; an associated ability to allow at least one desired recipient to see at least one other of the at least two desired recipients; a message body; at least one yes-no-type answer question; at least one numeric-response-type answer question; at least one textual-response-type answer question; at least one multiple-choice-response-type answer question; at least one meeting date which can include either or both a day and a time; at least one meeting location; at least one meeting RSVP request; at least one event descriptor wherein the event descriptor can include, but is not limited to, a party, a breakfast, a lunch, a dinner, a movie, a game, a concert, or a miscellaneous occurrence; at least one event location; and at least one event RSVP request. (For example, such as

was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 14 function substantially as described elsewhere herein. In one implementation, method step 1400 is accomplished via a scheme analogous to that shown and described in relation to FIGURES 11B-E.

With reference now to FIGURE 15, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 10. Depicted in FIGURE 15 is that, in one implementation, method step 1002 includes method step 1500. Method step 1500 shows that, in one implementation, accepting, via a wireless device, user input requesting response aggregation drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, accepting voice, alphanumeric, or digital input. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 15 function substantially as described elsewhere herein. In one implementation method step 1500 is accomplished via a scheme analogous to that shown and described in relation to FIGURES 11B-E.

II. MANAGED MESSAGING AS OBSERVED FROM RECIPIENT'S WIRELESS DEVICE

Referring now to FIGURE 16, shown is a high-level logic flowchart depicting a process. Method step 1600 depicts the start of process. Method step 1602 illustrates presenting at least two message-structure item questions via a wireless device. Method step 1604 shows the end of the process.

With reference now to FIGURE 17, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 16. Depicted in FIGURE 17 is that, in one

implementation, method step 1602 includes method step 1700. Method step 1700 shows that, in one implementation, presenting at least two message-structure item questions via a wireless device can include, but is not limited to, displaying the at least two message-structure item questions concurrently or sequentially. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 17 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to FIGURE 18A, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 16. Depicted in FIGURE 18A is that, in one implementation, method step 1602 includes method step 1800. Method step 1800 shows that, in one implementation, presenting at least two message-structure item questions via a wireless device can include, but is not limited to, displaying a message having at least one message-structure item. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 18A function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

Referring now to FIGURES 18B-C, depicted is an example of a scheme used in one implementation of displaying a message having at least one message-structure item. Following are flowchart-based descriptions of various implementations of systems and devices. In general, with respect to presentation via wireless devices, implementations of these flowchart based descriptions follow the example scheme set forth in FIGURES 18B-C.

With reference now to FIGURE 19, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 18A. Depicted in FIGURE 19 is that, in one

implementation, method step 1800 includes method step 1900. Method step 1900 shows that, in one implementation, displaying a message having at least one message-structure item can include, but is not limited to, the at least one message-structure item selected from a message-structure-item group which includes a subject; a response option; an associated ability to allow at least one desired recipient to see at least one other of the message's recipients; a message body; at least one yes-no-type answer question; at least one numeric-response-type answer question; at least one textual-response-type answer question; at least one multiple-choice-response-type answer question; at least one meeting date which can include either or both a day and a time; at least one meeting location; at least one meeting RSVP request; at least one event descriptor wherein the event descriptor can include, but is not limited to, a party, a breakfast, a lunch, a dinner, a movie, a game, a concert, or a miscellaneous occurrence; at least one event location; and at least one event RSVP request. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 19 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

III. MANAGED MESSAGING AS OBSERVED FROM SERVER ENTITY (E.G., MMP ENGINE 104)

With reference now to FIGURE 20, shown is an implementation of a high-level logic flowchart depicting a process. Method step 2000 depicts the start of the process. Method step 2002 illustrates receiving input requesting response aggregation drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients (e.g., MMP engine 104 receiving one or more packets containing such input from wireless device 102). Method step 2004 illustrates transmitting the message to at least one of the at least two desired recipients,

wherein said transmitting is via at least one wireless device (e.g., MMP engine 104 transmitting one or more packets containing the message to one or more recipients of group 106 via such one or more recipients' respective wireless devices 108). Method step 2006 shows the end of the process.

With reference now to FIGURE 21, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 20. Depicted in FIGURE 21 is that, in one implementation, method step 2004 includes method step 2100. Method step 2100 shows that, in one implementation, transmitting the message to at least one of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, performing device processing wherein at least one device address of the at least two desired recipients is checked for valid format. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 21 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to FIGURE 22, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 20. Depicted in FIGURE 22 is that, in one implementation, method step 2004 includes method step 2200. Method step 2200 shows that, in one implementation, transmitting the message to at least one of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, performing device provisioning wherein at least one phone number of the at least two desired recipients is determined as either active or inactive. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 22 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to FIGURE 23, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 20. Depicted in FIGURE 23 is that, in one implementation, method step 2004 -- transmitting the message to at least one of the at least two desired recipients -- can include, but is not limited to, method steps 2300-2306. Method step 2300 shows performing device detection whereby a specific device capability is associated with at least one of the at least two desired recipients. Method step 2302 shows retrieving at least one device-capability-specific file set appropriate to the specific device capability. Method step 2304 shows formulating the message into a device-capability-specific message via use of the at least one device-capability-specific file set. Method step 2306 shows transmitting the device-capability-specific message to the at least one wireless device. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 23 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to FIGURE 24, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 23. Depicted in FIGURE 24 is that, in one implementation, method step 2300 can include method step 2400. Illustrated is that, in one implementation, performing device detection whereby a specific device capability is associated with at least one of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, detecting a device capability associated with the at least one of the at least two desired recipients. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 24 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to FIGURE 25, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 24. Depicted in FIGURE 25 is that, in one implementation, method step 2400 can include method step 2500. Illustrated is that, in one implementation, detecting a device capability associated with the at least one of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, detecting the device capability to be one of a device-capability group which includes a WML (Wireless Markup Language) capable browser, a CHTML (Compact Hypertext Markup Language) capable browser, a Pocket IE (Internet Explorer) HTML (Hypertext Markup Language) capable browser, and a voice XML (Extensible Markup Language) capable browser. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 25 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to Figure 34, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in Figure 24. Depicted in Figure 34 is that, in one implementation, method step 2400 can include method step 3400. Illustrated is that, in one implementation, detecting a device capability associated with the at least one of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, detecting a commercially available browser. In one device implementation, method step 3400 is achieved by a wireless web server entity (e.g., a part of MMP engine 104 of Figure 1) when a user (e.g., a member of group of desired recipients 100) contacts the wireless web server entity via a wireless web browser on the users web-enabled cell phone (e.g., wireless device 108).

For additional examples of the process of Figure 34 and device implementations thereof, please see herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No.

60/282,381. The remaining method steps of Figure 34 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to Figure 35, shown are two alternate implementations of the high-level logic flowchart shown in Figure 34. Depicted in Figure 35 is that, in one implementation, method step 3400 includes method step 3500; further depicted is that, in another implementation, method step 3400 includes method step 3502; further depicted is that, in yet another implementation, method step 3400 includes method step 3504. Method step 3500 shows that, in one implementation, detecting a commercially available browser can include, but is not limited to, associating a mark-up language with a detected Pocket IE browser. In one device implementation, method step 3500 is achieved by a wireless web server entity (e.g., a part of MMP engine 104 of Figure 1) via recall of a mark-up language type associated with a version number of Pocket IE browser when a user (e.g., a member of group of desired recipients 100) contacts the wireless web server entity via a wireless web browser on the users web-enabled cell phone (e.g., wireless device 108).

Method step 3502 shows that, in one implementation, detecting a commercially available browser can include, but is not limited to, associating a mark-up language with a detected UP.browser. In one device implementation, method step 3502 is achieved by a wireless web server entity (e.g., a part of MMP engine 104 of Figure 1) via recall of a mark-up language type associated with a version number of UP.browser when a user (e.g., a member of group of desired recipients 100) contacts the wireless web server entity via a wireless web browser on the users web-enabled cell phone (e.g., wireless device 108).

Method step 3504 shows that, in one implementation, detecting a commercially available browser can include, but is not limited to, associating a mark-up language with a detected Palm Query Application browser. In one device implementation, method step 3504 is achieved by a wireless web server entity (e.g., a part of MMP engine 104 of Figure 1) via recall of a mark-up language type associated with a version number of Palm Query Application browser when a user (e.g., a member of group of desired recipients 100) contacts the wireless web server entity via a wireless web browser on the users web-enabled cell phone (e.g., wireless device 108).

For additional examples of the process of Figure 35 and device implementations thereof, please see herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381. The remaining method steps of Figure 35 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to FIGURE 26, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 24. Depicted in FIGURE 26 is that, in one implementation, method step 2400 can include method step 2600. Illustrated is that, in one implementation, detecting a device capability associated with the at least one of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, detecting the device capability via scanning of a Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (http) header. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 26 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to FIGURE 27, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 23. Depicted in FIGURE 27 is that, in one implementation, method step 2302 can include method step 2700. Illustrated is that, in

one implementation, retrieving at least one device-capability-specific file set appropriate to the specific device capability can include, but is not limited to, retrieving at least one device-capability-specific XSL (Extensible Style Language) file set from a device-capability-specific XSL-file-set group which includes a WML capability-specific XSL file set, a CHTML capability-specific XSL file set, a Pocket IE HTML capability-specific XSL file set, and a voice XML capability-specific XSL file set. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 27 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to FIGURE 28, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 23. Depicted in FIGURE 28 is that, in one implementation, method step 2304 can include method step 2800. Illustrated is that, in one implementation, formulating the message into a device-capability-specific message via use of the at least one device-capability-specific file set can include, but is not limited to, utilizing the at least one device-capability-specific file set in conjunction with an XML representation of the message to create a message appropriate to a browser wherein the browser is selected from a browser-capability group which includes a WML capable browser, a CHTML capable browser, a Pocket IE HTML capable browser, and a voice XML capable browser. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 28 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to FIGURE 29, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 20. Depicted in FIGURE 29 is that, in one

implementation, method step 2004 includes method step 2900. Method step 2900 shows that, in one implementation, transmitting the message to at least one of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, sending the message to at least one of the at least two desired recipients via a wireless link. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 29 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to FIGURE 30, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 20. Depicted in FIGURE 30 is that, in one implementation, method step 2004 includes method step 3000. Method step 3000 shows that, in one implementation, transmitting the message to at least one of the at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, repetitively attempting to send the message to each of the at least two desired recipients. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 30 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to FIGURE 31, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 20. Depicted in FIGURE 31 is that, in one implementation, method step 2002 includes method step 3100. Method step 3100 shows that, in one implementation, receiving input requesting response aggregation drawn upon a message having at least two desired recipients can include, but is not limited to, receiving input defining the message to have at least one message-structure item selected from a message-structure group including a subject; a response option; an associated ability to allow at least one desired recipient to see at least one other of the at least two

desired recipients; a message body; at least one yes-no-type answer question; at least one numeric-response-type answer question; at least one textual-response-type answer question; at least one multiple-choice-response-type answer question; at least one meeting date which can include either or both a day and a time; at least one meeting location; or at least one meeting RSVP request; at least one event descriptor wherein the event descriptor can include, but is not limited to, a party, a breakfast, a lunch, a dinner, a movie, a game, a concert, or a miscellaneous occurrence; at least one event location; and at least one event RSVP request. (For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 31 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

With reference now to FIGURE 32, shown is an implementation of the high-level logic flowchart shown in FIGURE 20. Depicted in FIGURE 32 is that, in one implementation, method step 2002 includes method step 3200. Method step 3200 shows that, in one implementation, receiving input can include, but is not limited to, receiving input from an entity selected from an entity group including an alphanumeric processing entity and a voice-processing entity. For example, in one implementation method step 3200 is achieved via a wireless device (e.g., wireless device 102) transmitting to a computational entity (e.g., a part of MMP engine 104 of Figure 1) which understands and accepts voice input, and which thereafter processes the voice input and reformulates it into alphanumeric input and subsequently transmits the alphanumeric input to the wireless web server entity (e.g., a part of MMP engine 104 of Figure 1) which understands and accepts alphanumeric input. In another implementation, . In one device implementation, method step 3200 is achieved via a wireless device (e.g., wireless

device 102) transmitting to a wireless web server entity (e.g., a part of MMP engine 104 of Figure 1) that understands and accepts alphanumeric input.

(For example, such as was at least partially described in the herein incorporated by reference Provisional Patent Application No. 60/282,381.) The remaining method steps of FIGURE 32 function substantially as described elsewhere herein.

IV. GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES RELATED TO PROCESSES AND/OR SYSTEMS DESCRIBED HEREIN

Those having ordinary skill in the art will recognize that the state of the art has progressed to the point where there is little distinction left between hardware and software implementations of aspects of systems; the use of hardware or software is generally (but not always, in that in certain contexts the choice between hardware and software can become significant) a design choice representing cost vs. efficiency tradeoffs. Those having ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that there are various vehicles by which processes and/or systems described herein can be effected (e.g., hardware, software, and/or firmware), and that the preferred vehicle will vary with the context in which the processes are deployed. For example, if an implementer determines that speed and accuracy are paramount, the implementer may opt for a hardware and/or firmware vehicle; alternatively, if flexibility is paramount, the implementer may opt for a solely software implementation; or, yet again alternatively, the implementer may opt for some combination of hardware, software, and/or firmware. Hence, there are several possible vehicles by which the processes described herein may be effected, none of which is inherently superior to the other in that any vehicle to be utilized is a choice dependent upon the context in which the vehicle will be deployed and the specific

concerns (e.g., speed, flexibility, or predictability) of the implementer, any of which may vary.

The foregoing detailed description has set forth various embodiments of the devices and/or processes via the use of block diagrams, flowcharts, and examples. Insofar as such block diagrams, flowcharts, and examples contain one or more functions and/or operations, it will be understood as notorious by those within the art that each function and/or operation within such block diagrams, flowcharts, or examples can be implemented, individually and/or collectively, by a wide range of hardware, software, firmware, or any combination thereof. In one embodiment, the present invention may be implemented via Application Specific Integrated Circuits (ASICs). However, those skilled in the art will recognize that the embodiments disclosed herein, in whole or in part, can be equivalently implemented in standard Integrated Circuits, as one or more computer programs running on one or more computers (e.g., as one or more server programs running on one or more computer systems), as one or more programs running on one or more processors (e.g., as one or more thin client programs running on one or more processors), as firmware, or as virtually any combination thereof, and that designing the circuitry and/or writing the code for the software or firmware would be well within the skill of one of ordinary skill in the art in light of this disclosure. In addition, those skilled in the art will appreciate that the mechanisms of the present invention are capable of being distributed as a program product in a variety of forms, and that an illustrative embodiment of the present invention applies equally regardless of the particular type of signal bearing media used to actually carry out the distribution. Examples of a signal bearing media include, but are not limited to, the following: recordable type media such as floppy disks, hard disk drives, CD ROMs, digital tape,

and transmission type media such as digital and analogue communication links using TDM or IP based communication links (e.g., packet links).

In a general sense, those skilled in the art will recognize that the various embodiments described herein which can be implemented, individually and/or collectively, by a wide range of hardware, software, firmware, or any combination thereof can be viewed as being composed of various types of "electrical circuitry." Consequently, as used herein "electrical circuitry" includes, but is not limited to, electrical circuitry having at least one discrete electrical circuit, electrical circuitry having at least one integrated circuit, electrical circuitry having at least one application specific integrated circuit, electrical circuitry forming a general purpose computing device configurable by a computer program (e.g., a general purpose computer configurable by a computer program or a microprocessor configurable by a computer program), electrical circuitry forming a memory device (e.g., any and all forms of random access memory), and electrical circuitry forming a communications device (e.g., a modem, communications switch, or optical-electrical equipment).

Those skilled in the art will recognize that it is common within the art to describe devices and/or processes in the fashion set forth herein, and thereafter use standard engineering practices to integrate such described devices and/or processes into data processing systems. That is, the devices and/or processes described herein can be integrated into a data processing system via a reasonable amount of experimentation. FIGURE 33 shows an example representation of a data processing system into which at least a part of the herein described devices and/or processes may be integrated with a reasonable amount of experimentation.

With reference now to FIGURE 33, depicted is a pictorial representation of a conventional data processing system in which illustrative embodiments of the devices and/or processes described herein may be implemented. It should be noted that a graphical user interface systems (e.g., Microsoft Windows 98 or Microsoft Windows NT operating systems) and methods can be utilized with the data processing system depicted in FIGURE 33. Data processing system 3320 is depicted which includes system unit housing 3322, video display device 3324, keyboard 3326, mouse 3328, and microphone (not shown). Data processing system 3320 may be implemented utilizing any suitable computer such as a DELL portable computer system, a product of Dell Computer Corporation, located in Round Rock, Texas; Dell is a trademark of Dell Computer Corporation.

The foregoing described embodiments depict different components contained within, or connected with, different other components. It is to be understood that such depicted architectures are merely exemplary, and that in fact many other architectures can be implemented which achieve the same functionality. In a conceptual sense, any arrangement of components to achieve the same functionality is effectively "associated" such that the desired functionality is achieved. Hence, any two components herein combined to achieve a particular functionality can be seen as "associated with" each other such that the desired functionality is achieved, irrespective of architectures or intermedial components. Likewise, any two components so associated can also be viewed as being "operably connected", or "operably coupled", to each other to achieve the desired functionality.

While particular embodiments of the present invention have been shown and described, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that, based upon the teachings

herein, changes and modifications may be made without departing from this invention and its broader aspects and, therefore, the appended claims are to encompass within their scope all such changes and modifications as are within the true spirit and scope of this invention. Furthermore, it is to be understood that the invention is solely defined by the appended claims. It will be understood by those within the art that, in general, terms used herein, and especially in the appended claims (e.g., bodies of the appended claims) are generally intended as "open" terms (e.g., the term "including" should be interpreted as "including but not limited to," the term "having" should be interpreted as "having at least," the term "includes" should be interpreted as "includes but is not limited to," etc.). It will be also understood by those within the art that if a specific number of an introduced claim element is intended, such an intent will be explicitly recited in the claim, and in the absence of such recitation no such intent is present. For example, as an aid to understanding, the following appended claims may contain usage of the introductory phrases "at least one" and "one or more" to introduce claim elements. However, the use of such phrases should not be construed to imply that the introduction of a claim element by the indefinite articles "a" or "an" limits any particular claim containing such introduced claim element to inventions containing only one such element, even when the same claim includes the introductory phrases "one or more" or "at least one" and indefinite articles such as "a" or "an"; the same holds true for the use of definite articles used to introduce claim elements. In addition, even if a specific number of an introduced claim element is explicitly recited, those skilled in the art will recognize that such recitation should typically be interpreted to mean *at least* the recited number (e.g., the bare recitation of "two elements," without other modifiers, typically means *at least* two elements, or *two or more* elements).